

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/674,651

Applicant(s)

KIHARA ET AL.

Examiner

Paul Callahan

Art Unit

2137

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to The telephonic interview conducted with the Applicant's Representative on 5-15-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-26.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_ PC
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_ PC
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 15-26 are pending in the instant application and have been examined.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Arthur A. Smith on 5-15-06.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 15 is amended such that the first paragraph shall now read:

A reproducing apparatus for reproducing data of in which a digital signal, to which a fixed value is added at a predetermined timing to blocks of main data, is compressed and encrypted from a ~~record~~ recording medium, comprising:

Claim 15 is amended such that the final paragraph shall now read:

controlling means for permitting and prohibiting the decompressing ~~process~~ of said ~~decompressing means for the main data decompressed by said decompressing means corresponding to~~ based upon the compared result of said comparing means.

Claim 16 is amended to read:

The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein the ~~record~~ recording medium is attachable/detachable to/from the reproducing apparatus.

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Claim 17 is amended to read:

The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein the ~~record~~ recording medium is a non-volatile memory.

Claim 20 is amended such that the third line shall now read:

~~corresponding to~~ based upon the compared result in such a manner that a mute

Claim 21 is amended such that the first paragraph shall now read:

A reproducing method for reproducing data ~~of~~ in which a digital signal, to which a fixed value is added at a predetermined timing to blocks of main data, is compressed and encrypted from a ~~record~~ recording medium, comprising the steps of:

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Claim 21 is amended such that the final paragraph shall now read:

comparing the separated fixed value with the a fixed value that is stored; and  
permitting and prohibiting the decompressing process of ~~comparing step~~ for the  
main data ~~that is decompressed corresponding to~~ based upon the compared result of  
the comparing step.

Claim 22 is amended to read:

The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the record recording  
medium is attachable/detachable to/from the reproducing apparatus.

Claim 23 is amended to read:

The reproducing apparatus as set forth in claim 21, wherein the record recording  
medium is a non-volatile memory.

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Claim 26 is amended such that the third line shall now read:

~~corresponding to~~ based upon the compared result in such a manner that a mute

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 15-26 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art in the field, McCalmont et al., US 4,433,211, does not teach the combination of claim limitations found in the independent claims, particularly including the controlling means of the applicant that permits or prohibits a decompression of main data based upon the comparison result of the applicant.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

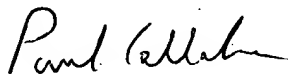
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**Conclusion**

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul E. Callahan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3869. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise, can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is: (571) 273-8300.

5-19-06

  
**EMMANUEL L. MOISE**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**